FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

16 NOVEMBER 1983

Lebanon

Israeli Air Strike — The Israeli Air Force attacked a "terrorist base" in the Al-Biqa' valley belonging to "organizations linked to Iran," an IDF spokesman cited by IDF Radio said on 16 November. Beirut radio reported that the attack was against two camps that belonged to the Islamic Amal Movement. The Voice of Lebanon radio added that two ammunition depots were destroyed in the raids.

Military Developments — Following the air raid, Israeli aircraft overflew southern Lebanon, Beirut, and the north, including Tripoli, according to the Voice of Lebanon. Meanwhile, U.S. aircraft continued overflights of Beirut and the mountain region, Beirut radio said.

In Beirut bombs exploded near French contingent positions on Sabra Street and near the At-Turk Hospital, but neither caused human losses, Beirut radio reported. Southern Beirut and several other suburbs were shelled intermittently, the radio added, while the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported that "communists, leftists, and Khomeyniites" continued to reinforce their positions in the southern suburb. In the mountain area, Lebanese Army positions in Suq al-Gharb and Khaldah were subjected to "concentrated" shelling that the Army returned, Beirut radio stated.

According to the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio, the "Lebanese national resistance" attacked an Israeli position near Tyre, killing at least three soldiers. Beirut radio reported that an Israeli patrol was ambushed south of Tyre, while IDF Radio said one Israeli soldier was injured when his vehicle was fired on east of Tyre.

Radio Free Lebanon reported that Syrian forces have completed the deployment of an "advanced Soviet missile network," linked to Syrian headquarters in Shtawrah and Damascus, on the Sannin and Az-Za'rur hills.

Political Developments — Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam arrived in Beirut on 16 November, Radio Free Lebanon announced, 1 day earlier than predicted by Beirut radio. Radio Monte Carlo said Khaddam was meeting with President al-Jumayyil in the president's home. Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt arrived in Jordan on 15 November, according to the *AD-DUSTUR*. Earlier, on returning to Lebanon from a visit to Damascus, Junblatt warned that "the war will be resumed" if no solutions, "or at least a serious cease-fire," appear "by the end of the month," the Voice of Arab Lebanon reported.

PLO Affairs

North Lebanon Military Situation — Forces opposed to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat took control of the Al-Baddawi camp on 16 November, Radio Monte Carlo reported citing a REUTER dispatch. 'Arafat's fighters in the camp repulsed three attacks by "Syrian and Libyan forces and their agents" the previous day, according to Baghdad Voice of PLO radio. Turbul Voice of the Palestinian Revolution and Damascus radio denied that As-Sa'iqah commander Salih al-Ma'ani or PFLP-GC leader Ahmad Jibril were hit in the fighting, refuting earlier Baghdad Voice of PLO claims.

Related Developments — The attack on the PLO loyalist forces in Tripoli is the result of an "American-Syrian deal" just as the Israeli invasion last year followed an "American-Israeli agreement," PLO leader 'Arafat charged in an interview broadcast by Paris radio. In another interview with the Italian communist daily *L'UNITA*, reported by ANSA, 'Arafat said 3,000 Lebanese and Palestinians have been killed or wounded in the fighting around Tripoli. In Damascus, PNC Chairman Khalid al-Fahum called for an end to the fighting and for the convocation of a PLO Executive Committee meeting attended by all members, including 'Arafat, KUNA reported. Despite his recent call for a "collective" PLO leadership — reported by Turbul radio — Al-Fahum told KUNA that "nobody can strip Yasir 'Arafat of his legitimacy as chairman of the PLO."

Meanwhile, the PLO representative in Bonn warned that the PLO may support opposition movements in Syria and Libya if the latter continue to put military pressure on the PLO, according to DPA. A Baghdad Voice of PLO commentary likewise told "traitors and agents in the Syrian regime" that the battle will not remain within the limits they have set. "We will fight you, agents, in Damascus and in all the Syrian cities," the radio proclaimed.

Syria

Foreign Minister Khaddam, in a political statement to the People's Assembly broadcast by Damascus television, blamed 'Arafat for exacerbating the Fatah dispute by ordering the physical liquidation of his opponents in Al-Baddawi. Syria has proof that 'Arafat plans to sign an agreement empowering the Jordanian regime to negotiate with Israel, Khaddam indicated. He deplored the "campaign of lies and incrimination against Syria" over its role in the dispute and reaffirmed Syria's view that no Arab side has the right to act independently in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Israel

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told the magazine *YOMAN HASHAVU'A* — as reported by Jerusalem radio — that he has "invited" King Husayn to pay an official visit to Jerusalem to begin negotiations on a "peace agreement." Regarding Syria, Shamir told a political meeting that "war is not expected" and that the Soviets are not leaving Syria, but "consolidating there," the radio added. In another development, the United States has asked Israel to pass on data about "terrorist targets in Lebanon" for possible use in retaliation for attacks on U.S. Marines in Lebanon, according to the radio.

Iran

Support for Syria -- The Foreign Ministry released a statement, reported by IRNA, "strongly condemning" U.S. and Israeli "threats" against Syria "and other revolutionary forces in Lebanon" and statingthat Iran would "defend the legitimate rights" of the Syrians, Palestinians, and Lebanese and exert "all means at its disposal to totally drive the aggressive forces out of the region."

Operation Against "Counterrevolutionaries" — A military communique broadcast by Tehran radio reported that Iranian forces began an operation to "cut off communication links" between the Iraqi forces and the "armed assailants" in the northern border region between Sar Dasht and Marivan, "liberating" 19 important heights and 27 villages and capturing the border road used by "counterrevolutionaries" to receive supplies from Iraq.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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BAKHTAR: U.S. Trains Refugees in Terrorism
LD150759 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0518 GMT 14 Nov 83

[Text] Kabul, Nov 13, BAKHTAR — Political observer of BIA writes:

The Washington Administration continues to step up subversive actions against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The training of hired gangs recruited from among the Afghan refugees who are away from their native country for one reason or other has been intensified in a hundred special camps set up by the CIA agents on Pakistani territory. About 300 American military instructors teach them the tactics of sabotage and terrorism. After having received detailed instructions from the Americans, the bandits are smuggled into the DRA to kill, to blow up and burn everything they can lay their hands on there.

Along with carrying out acts of terrorism against the DRA, the United States and its Western partners intensified their covert activities for uniting the isolated Afghan counter-revolutionary groups who have entrenched themselves in Pakistan. This is done with the obvious aim of expanding the scale of the undeclared war that is being waged against the DRA. This is why a delegation of what is described as Afghan refugees residing in the USA and in Western Europe arrived in Peshawar the other day.

Together with the ringleaders of such counter-revolutionary groupings as Hezb-e Eslami, Harakat-e Enqelabi Eslami and others, this delegation is to knock together a "united front." All this shows that the USA and its Western allies are not even thinking of a peaceful settlement of the situation around Afghanistan but continue escalating confrontation in the region.

Of late, the Washington Administration has been making ever more use of these gangs also for supporting the positions of General Ziaul Haq's military regime. For the dollars and arms they received from Washington, the military authorities in Islamabad have allowed the United States to use the territory of their country as the main jumping-off ground for the undeclared war against the DRA, as well as for creating military bases and other facilities for the American Rapid Deployment Force.

In a bid to save the military regime which is coming up against a massive wave of anti-government action, the authorities naturally with the blessings of their Washington [word indistinct] — have sanctioned the use of hired Afghan gangs. In an interview with the weekly *SUNDAY* Hafiz Pirzada, one of the leaders of the Pakistan People's Party, said that the Pakistani Army is already using these gangs to keep the internal political movement in the north-western border province under control. On the Peshawar University campus they made short work of one of the student leaders who was a member of the PPP.

The bandits who are experienced in carrying out acts of terrorism and violence, help [words indistinct] of the [words indistinct] Party, which is the [word indistinct] right- wing party that supports General Ziaul Haq, to give its members military [words indistinct] Islamabad used the Afghani henchmen in suppressing the movement for the restoration of democracy in Pakistan to such an extent that, for example, in the north-western border province they have already become a major force upon which the Ziaul Haq regime can rely.

All this confirms that the military authorities in Pakistan, who keep lamenting in public the refugee problem, in fact do not even think of solving it. In the contrary, they are trying to derive certain advantages for themselves from it. In the meantime, the road to a solution of the problem of the Afghan refugees is open. Beginning with its well-known proposals advanced in May 1980, the DRA Government has been repeatedly declaring that it is ready to sit down to a negotiating table with the Pakistani side to discuss peaceful ways of solving all disputable problems, including that of the refugees.

Karmal Greets Angolan President on Anniversary
GF111124 Kabul in English to South Asia 0930 GMT 11 Nov 83

[Text] Babrak Karmal, the general secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, send a congratulatory telegram addressed to Jose Eduardo dos Santos, general secretary of the Special Committee of the Workers Party [words indistinct] and president of the People's Republic of Angola, has been communicated to Luanda on the occasion of the liberation anniversary of Angola.

Confidence has been expressed in the telegram for [words indistinct] and better relations between the peoples, parties, and governments of the two countries will be consolidated further. [Words indistinct] and further progress and welfare of the fraternal people of Angola.

Turkish Cypriot Assembly Declaration 'Deplored'

BK160601 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] India has deplored the unilateral declaration of independence of the Turkish occupied part of Cyprus by the so-called Turkish Cypriot Assembly. Expressing concern with the action, a spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry described it as a violation of the declaration of Nonaligned Movement and resolution of the UN General Assembly on the question of Cyprus. He said India supports the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus, headed by President Kiprianou.

Nonaligned Committee on Palestine To Meet 18 Nov

BK151400 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] The prime minister has called a meeting of the Nonaligned Committee on Palestine in New Delhi on Friday and Saturday. The meeting will be held at the ministerial level.

The meeting follows contacts that Mrs Gandhi has been having with various leaders as the chairperson of the Nonaligned Movement. She had also received messages of concern from some leaders over the developments in West Asia.

The Nonaligned Committee on Palestine was set up at the summit in the capital last March. Besides India, its members are Algeria, Bangladesh, Cuba, PLO, Senegal, Yugoslavia, and Zambia. The committee held a meeting at the official level in New Delhi on the 30th and the 31st of last month.

Gandhi Urges Party To Fight 'Disturbing' Forces

BK151453 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] The prime minister strongly deprecated attempts being made by some organizations to alienate one community from the other by misleading propaganda. Speaking at the general body meeting of the Congress-I Party in parliament this morning, Mrs Gandhi urged her partymen to fight the forces disturbing communal harmony. She accused the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh and the Bharatiya Janata Party of spreading rumors over the beef tallow issue.

Option of President's Rule in Punjab Debated

BK151704 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] The home minister, Mr P.C. Sethi, has expressed the hope that every section of the people in Punjab would cooperate with the state government to ensure speedy restoration of normalcy and functioning of the elected government. He was speaking in parliament on a statutory resolution seeking approval of president's rule in Punjab.

Mr Sethi said the erstwhile chief minister had come to the conclusion that the unfortunate developments there had acquired a dimension having serious implications for the country as a whole. The chief minister felt that the situation calls for an intervention of the center for a temporary period to meet the needs of national security and integrity.

Mr Sethi placed on record the services rendered by Mr Darbara Singh as chief minister and said that he upheld the secular values and tradition throughout.

During the discussion on the resolution in the Lok Sabha, the opposition charged the ruling party with seeking short-term gains for itself without attempting a lasting solution of the problem. They alleged that constitutional provision for imposition of President's rule has been misused. Some members suggested the immediate resumption of talks with Akali leaders. One opposition member appealed to Akali leaders to give up their morcha [agitation].

Refuting the allegations the ruling party members said the president's rule was needed in view of the deteriorating situation in the state.

In the Rajya Sabha, the statutory resolution was moved by the home minister. A motion was also moved by Mr Shiv Chandra Jha, Janata, which seeks to revoke this proclamation. Taking part in the combined discussion on the resolution and the motion, members expressed concern over the Punjab situation and urged the government to take urgent steps to find an early solution of the problem. The ruling party members were in favor of stringent measures to apprehend the extremists and other suspects who have taken refuge in gurdwaras [Sikh temples]. The opposition members offered their cooperation in finding an early solution of the issue. Some opposition members criticized the government for keeping the state assembly in suspended animation.

In the Lok Sabha today, the government introduced three bills relating to Punjab and Chandigarh to replace the ordinances promulgated last month. Two of the bills seek to provide additional powers to the police authorities to deal with the situation arising out of the activities of the extremists and secessionist elements. The third one is for conferring certain special powers on the Armed Forces to assist the law enforcing agency in dealing with the situation.

Several opposition members opposed the introducing of the bills. They said these infringe the fundamental rights of the citizens and are unconstitutional. Allaying the opposition misgivings, Mr P.C. Sethi said the powers will not be used in a manner which is not conducive to human liberty.

1 Killed, 6 Wounded in Gauhati Bomb Incident 15 Nov

BK160959 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] In Gauhati, one Central Reserve Police force jawan [soldier] was killed and six policemen, including an officer of the

Army police, were injured last night when a bomb was thrown at them by some extremist elements. According to official report, the incident occurred when a police party went to (Kamakha-Kalipur) area of the city to raid an extremist hideout.

The injured have been admitted to the hospital in Gauhati. A vigorous police search is on to track down the extremists.

Official Comments on Trade With Pakistan
BK151441 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] The minister of state for commerce, Mrs Ram Dulari Sinha, told the upper house of parliament today that India is keen to develop trade with Pakistan on a nondiscriminatory basis and offers are being made to this effect. The trade between the two countries has not progressed in the desired direction since the Pakistani authorities continued to disallow imports from India except through certain public sector agencies.

She said that several items were identified for export to Pakistan and import into India following contacts established between the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry in February this year.

Air Force Expects Mirage-2000 in 1984-85
BK151444 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] The supply of Mirage 2000 aircraft to the Indian Air Force from France is expected to commence during 1984-85. Giving this information in the upper house of parliament today, the deputy defense minister, Mr Singh Deo, said an option for the manufacture of the Mirage has been secured from the French manufacturer under an agreement concluded last year.

Briefs

French Energy Protocol — India and France have agreed to expand cooperation in various areas of the energy sector. A protocol for this was signed in New Delhi yesterday at the end of a 2-day meeting of the high-level Indo-French group on energy. It was also agreed that French experts will visit India to study the use of low grade coal in thermal power stations and to suggest measures for improvement. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 11 Nov 83 BK]

French Assistance — France will provide comprehensive assistance to India for the development of 10 deep coal mines in West Bengal, Bihar, and Andhra Pradesh. An agreement to this effect was signed between the two countries in Calcutta today. It envisages preparations and implementation of feasibility reports, transfer of technology, and training of personnel in France in deep mines operation. Initially, France would provide financial assistance to the tune of 200 million rupees for Ananta coal mine within Talcher in Orissa. Details for other projects are being worked out. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 Nov 83 BK]

Belgian Loan — Belgium will provide 68 million rupees interest free loan to India during the current financial year. An agreement to this effect was signed in New Delhi today. [Excerpt] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 Nov 83 BK]

Protocol With Bangladesh — The Indo-Bangladesh protocol on inland water transit and trade was renewed in Dhaka today for 1 year. The protocol provides for transit of Indian vessels through Bangladesh to other parts of India. [Summary] [Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 8 Nov 83 BK]

Severe Strain of Malaria — New Delhi, Nov 8 (AFP) — The Indian capital and its surrounding areas have been hit by a severe variety of malaria which is causing cerebral disorders and in some extreme cases, paralysis, physicians said. About 50 per cent of all malaria cases reported at the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences have been diagnosed as the new variant which is caused by a parasite called plasmodium falciparum, a spokesman of the department of medicine, AIIMS, said. Though the exact statistics are yet to be compiled, experts find the trend alarming because this parasite is known to be much more dangerous than P. Vivax, the parasite responsible for common Malaria. The parasite, which infects blood vessels, destroys about 15-20 per cent of the red blood cells leading to jaundice and kidney disorders. An added reason for concern, the experts said, is that the parasite is resistant to common anti-malaria drugs. Experiments to determine the response of the parasite to other drugs are in progress. [Excerpts] [Hong Kong AFP in English 0719 GMT 8 Nov 83 BK]

Ziaul Haq Discusses Relations With India

BK161356 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] The president, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, has said Pakistan as a peace-loving Islamic country wants to have good-neighborly relations with India and to live with her in peace with honor. He expressed the hope that India, being the biggest country in the region, would reciprocate Pakistan's gesture of good will.

Talking to newsmen before his departure from Quetta this morning, he was replying to a question in which he was asked to comment on the recent statement by the Indian prime minister, Mr Indira Gandhi, expressing fears of an attack on India by a neighboring country. The president said he was of the firm view that relations between countries are not solved by verbal rhetoric, whether they are for improvement or for deterioration.

The Government of Pakistan, he said, on its part, has decided very deliberately to follow a policy of good neighborliness with India. We are going to promote that policy irrespective of the fact that such unfortunate and certain unnecessary comments have been passed. He said we thought those comments were primarily for domestic use. But we would not allow others to solve their domestic problems at our expense.

He said we have taken up the matter with India at the appropriate level. We are trying to stress on them that this is not the method of improvement of relations. Both the countries have done well to normalize their relations as the people of the two countries want peaceful conditions. He pointed out that Pakistan had gone out of the way to normalize relations and would continue to do so. He hoped that temporary hurdles would not be allowed to come in the way of continuing the process of normalization.

Asked about the possibility of Pakistan reentering the Commonwealth, the president said in keeping with their policy pursued over the last 4 years, they would like to reenter in an honorable manner.

Answering a question about Pakistan's role in bringing about an end to fighting between rival factions of the PLO, he said they were in touch with the respective organizations. He hoped some results would be achieved.

Asked about the law and order situation, he said it was very good all over the country and they were very satisfied over it. There is no problem in Baluchistan. In Sind, things are much better than they were a month ago. He said he had always been stressing for national unity when he talked of Islam which preaches brotherhood.

In reply to a question, the president said there was unanimity of opinion between the government and the politicians as far as the holding of elections and ending of martial law were concerned. In review of the agreement on the principle, he asked why there should be a serious difference of opinion with regard to modality? He dispelled the impression that the government was engaged in a dialogue with the leaders of defunct political parties to bargain with them. These should not be termed as muzakirat [consultations], but were meetings to exchange views. He said that the government has its own viewpoint. He had announced a political program on the 12th of August after a year-long deliberation. The president said he was trying to find out the cause of the reactions over the plan which was flexible. In Baluchistan, he found the people in complete agreement with the plan announced by him.

Later, the president performed the inaugural ceremony of the first 210-mw unit of the Bin Qasim power station near Karachi. He said efforts are being made to meet the shortage of energy through the use of conventional sources. He however said permanent solution of the problem lies in the development of nuclear energy. Details of his speech are still coming in.

Briefs

Japanese Cultural Grant — Japan will give 98 million yen, equivalent to about 5 million rupees, as Japanese cultural grant aid to Pakistan under an agreement signed in Islamabad today. The aid, which was agreed upon during President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq's visit to Japan in July this year, will be used for purchase of equipment for the preservation and exhibition of cultural properties of Allama Iqbal Museum at Lahore. [Text][Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 13 Nov 83 BK]

PRC Education Agreement — Pakistan and China signed in Islamabad today an agreement for mutual cooperation in the field of education. Under the agreement, China will offer 18 scholarships to Pakistan next year and will welcome self-paying Pakistani students' study in China. The Pakistan Government will also offer six scholarships to China. The delegation called on the president, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, in his chamber in the Federal Council Secretariat in Islamabad today. They discussed with the president matters relating to cooperation in the field of education between the two countries. [Excerpt][Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 12 Nov 83 BK]

NEPAL

AFP: Government Reshuffles Various Ministries

BK151526 Hong Kong AFP in English 1343 GMT 15 Nov 83

[By Kedar Man Singg]

[Text] Kathmandu, Nov 15 (AFP) — A senior government secretary has been dismissed in a high-level reshuffle in various ministries of Prime Minister Lokendra Bahadur Chand's government, it was announced yesterday.

Ram Narayan Shrestha, secretary for the national panchayat (parliament) and local development, was dismissed only six months before his retirement.

The government did not say why he had been removed. However, he was known to be loyal to ousted Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa, who stepped down in July. Political observers here saw the reshuffle as bid to clear out loyalists to Mr. Thapa and weaken the influence he still holds within the partyless panchayat.

Mukti Prasad Kafley has been appointed acting secretary for the Ministry of Panchayat and Local Development.

In other changes, additional Industry Secretary Jeevan Lal Satyal has been given the post of acting secretary for the Communications Ministry while his predecessor Tek Bahadur Khatri has been transfered to the Cabinet Secretariat. Cabinet Secretariat Secretary Jitendra Lal Maskey moves to the Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation. The government has also split the Civil Supply Ministry from the Commerce Ministry. Damodar Prasad Gautam retains the Commerce Ministry post while Sant Bahadur Rai, additional secretary in the Panchayat and Local Development Ministry, becomes civil supply secretary.

The reshuffle has virtually paralysed the day-to-day administration of the Chand Government.

Meanwhile, Mr. Thapa ran into Mr. Chand and two senior cabinet ministers today at the official inauguration of the local panchayat meeting at Dhankuta, Mr. Thapa's constituency some 400 km (250 miles) east of here.

Finance and Communication Minister Prakash Chandra Lohini and Home Minister Padma Sundar Lawati both warned in speeches that "nobody should claim himself indispensible" to the partyless democratic panchayat system. However, they did not point the finger at Mr. Thapa, and he offered no reply.

SRI LANKA

Hameed Condemns Turkish Cypriot Declaration

BK161145 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr A.C.S. Hameed, has condemned the unilateral declaration of independence by a Turkish minority group in the northern part of Cyprus, calling itself the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus. The minister said that the declaration of secession and independence is illegal and totaly unacceptable to the international community.

Mr Hameed said that there is no doubt that this action has been made possible by the continuned presence of foreign forces in that area. Sri Lanka has consistently supported the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity and the nonaligned status of Cyprus. Cyprus, like Sri Lanka, is a member of the Commonwealth and a founder member of the Nonaligned Movement. Its first president late Archbishop Makarios had made a significant contribution to the growth of the movement.

The minister pointed out that this declaration is a regretable setback to the efforts being made to achieve a peaceful, unified,and stable Cyprus through the efforts of the Government of Cyprus, the United Nations, and the Nonaligned Movement. He stressed that Sri Lanka unreservedly condemns this act and will not extend any form of recognition to such an entity.

Leaders Meet With Commonwealth Secretary General

BK161155 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] The forthcoming Delhi summit will provide a chance to the Commonwealth leaders to make a real contribution toward improving international cooperation in both the economic and political spheres. The Commonwealth secretary general, Dr Shridath Ramphal, addressing a news conference at the Hotel Lanka Oberoi this morning said the summit would have a larger than usual share of [words indistinct]. He referred particularly to the events in Grenada and Cyprus. Commonwealth leaders will take a broader and more effective view of these dangers. He expressed the hope that in New Delhi on the question of Grenada the emphasis would be on recuperation and not recrimination. The Commonwealth might have a role to play in helping the period of transition if Grenada wanted it. It is putting itself in a state of preparedness to any request from the administration. It must be given time to determine what it wants.

Dr Ramphal said that we must never forget that Cyprus is a divided country illegally, but facing the reality of occupation and division. He called on Commonwealth countries to denounce Denktas' unilateral declaration of independence. He added that Prime Minister Trudeau of Canada will play a more prominent part in the discussions in Delhi and he has begun a crusade toward disarmament.

The Commonwealth secretary general, who leaves the island this evening, meets the prime minister this afternoon at the new parliament at (Kopte), which has been much admired around the Commonwealth. He had fruitful discussions with President Jayewardene and Foreign Minister Shahul Hameed.

He also said the Commonwealth took strong action in denouncing sports links with South Africa.

Delhi Names Diplomats Barred From Travel
BK141556 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 14 Nov 83

[Text] In Sri Lanka, diplomatic staffs of some countries based in Colombo have been barred from traveling outside the capital without permission. The countries are: Soviet Union, China, German Democratic Republic, and Bulgaria.

Ministry Statement Pledges Support for Syria

GF151652 Tehran IRNA in English 1625 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 15, IRNA — Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran issued a statement today strongly condemning the threats leveled by American and the Zionist regime officials at the Muslim country of Syria and other revolutionary Muslim forces in Lebanon. The statement also pledged all-out support of the Islamic Republic of Iran for Syria and the Lebanese and Palestinian revolutionary Muslims.

The statement noted that the recent developments in the region exemplified by repeated violations of the Lebanese air space by American surveillance planes flying over Syrian positions as well as the reinforcement of the U.S. fleet in the Mediterranean accompanied by continual military threats by the U.S. and the Zionist regime, are all committed under the pretext of retaliation for the bomb blasts in the U.S. headquarters in Lebanon.

The statement warned that such acts would not only weaken the strong determination of the Muslims in the region to sweep the aggressive forces out of their homelands, but threats would make them more determined in achieving their objectives.

The Foreign Ministry statement added that despite its existing issues and the imposed Iraqi war, the Islamic Republic of Iran would defend the legitimate rights of the Syrians, the Palestinians and the Lebanese and would explicit all means at its disposal in order to totally drive the aggressive forces out of the region.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, said the statement, assured the freedom seekers all over the globe that good would eventually prevail over evil in spite of the conspiracies concocted to suppress the Muslim people of the region.

It said Lebanon would become a graveyard for the aggressors and the victimised Palestinians together with the Lebanese Muslims would be freed from the yoke of American imperialism and its satellites.

Khomeyni Urges Studies at Home, Not Abroad

LD151317 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Mr Jasbi, supervisor of the open university, accompanied by heads of the university's various branches in the provinces, was received this morning by Imam Khomeyni, great leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He submitted a report on the university's performance to the imam of the nation.

During this meeting, the imam said: In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. We should all realize that we should do everything ourselves and forget what was wrongly suggested to our students and pupils: that they would not get anywhere unless they went to America, France or Britain, which led to them taking our youths group by group and corrupting them. We know that the people from the East and the West are and always will be against us. The reason for this is what you see, which is that most of the sides in the world are engaged in propaganda against us. That is because they do not want Islam and attack any country that wants to act in an Islamic manner.

Therefore, we should do something so that our youths can study here. And even if they should have to go abroad, they should go to countries that are not colonialistic, those who do not want to dominate us. I hope that conditions soon will be so that there will be no need to go abroad. This will depend on the efforts of you gentlemen and other friends in this vital matter, that is, the extent to which you utilize our good youths so that they can be trained right here and carry on serving God and the people. We should forget everything that has to come from abroad. Even if we import something that we need, why should our culture and ethics come from abroad. We possess a rich culture and ethics. Is it right for us to be subservient to them because they manufacture missiles? While they are wrecking the world with those industries, we want to have an industry that is not destructive, but useful and constructive.

May God grant you success. Peace and God's mercy be upon you.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,543

LD151828 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Communique No 1,543 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. In the Val-Fajr IV operational sector yesterday, Islam's combatants opened fire on the enemy's positions, fortifications, and supply roads, curbing Iraqi vehicles' traffic and destroying one enemy truck carrying servicemen and one ammunition dump. Speedy countermeasures by our combatants respulsed a limited enemy offensive in the area southwest of the Sheykh (Dezneshin) heights and forced the Saddamist forces to flee after suffering 60 killed and a number of servicemen taken prisoner.

In the Piranshah, Hajj 'Umran, and Sar Dasht operational sectors, our forces fire on enemy positions destroyed one Saddamist command jeep and several group trenches and foxholes and killed a number of their servicemen. On the Bakhtaran and Ilam border fronts, exchanges of fire continued, the intensity of which was greater in the Sumar and Mehran sectors. Our combatants destroyed one enemy ammunition dump.

On the southern fronts yesterday, sporadic exchanges of fire continued; they were more intense in the (Zeyd), Sharhani, and east Faqih sectors. By opening heavy weapons fire, Islam's combatant forces frustrated activities by enemy engineering equipment south of Kushk, west of (Chazzabeh), east of Faqi and (Baziliyah), and inflicted losses and casualties on the enemy.

Exchanges of fire continued yesterday across the banks of the Arvand Rud, in the course of which one enemy supply bridge was destroyed and four trenches and two observation posts of the Saddamist forces were set ablaze.

Enemy long-range weapons fire on Abadan's residential districts yesterday damaged several houses and shops.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 24 on Val-Fajr Operations
LD151817 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Communique No 24 of Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Heroic Islamic nation, martyr-nurturing Iranian nation: The heroic forces of Islam, composed of the heroic personnel of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the self-sacrificing guards and the mobilization units of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the heroic personnel of the Gendarmerie, and Muslim Kurdish peshmerga, continue the Val-Fajr IV operations which are being carried out under the leadership of the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, Imam Khomeyni. In the border region between Sar Dasht and Marivan, they have liberated an extensive part of the border strip inside the Islamic homeland as well as hundreds of square kilometers inside Iraqi territory; they have inflicted heavy blows against the Ba'thist-Zionist forces of Iraq and the agents of world arrogance.

Yesterday, they began extensive operations in the Sar Dasht border area to cut off communication links between the Ba'thist forces and the armed assailants and to destroy the criminals affiliated to the East and West and their Ba'thist supporters. Attacking the positions of the mercenary agents of world arrogance on this axis, they succeeded in clearing an extensive area from the filthy existence of armed assailants. During these successful operations, the blasphemy-fighting heroic forces of Islam, stationed in those regions, with God's help and assistance, succeeded in liberating 19 important heights: — 1,710, 1,920, 1,490, 1,310, 1,990, 1,686, 2,095, 1,734, 1,670, 1,900, 1,810, 1,790, 2,000, 2,060, 1,770, 1,730, 1,726, 1,741, and 1,483 heights situated in the Sar Dasht region; as well as 27 villages of the region, including (Bani-Khalaf), (Dowletu), Mazra'eh, and Nujan. In this region, in which hundreds of the mercenaries of world arrogance and their vile Ba'thist supporters were killed or wounded, a large quantity of enemy equipment and weapons were also destroyed and set on fire. Also more than 13 vehicles, a number of 105-mm guns, 5 radios, a large munitions depot, infrared telescopic sights, a large number of small arms and ammunitions, and enemy documents were captured by the powerful forces of Islam.

Following these operations, the region's largest border road used since the beginning of the victory of the Islamic Revolution by the counterrevolutionaries to receive supplies from the Zionist regime ruling over Iraq was captured by the powerful, self-sacrificing forces of Islam and the bases and premises of the dependent counterrevolutionaries in the above-mentioned areas, including (Dowletu) prison, which was bombed by the Zionist regime of Iraq in 1981, were liberated.

It should be noted that, during the various operations of the forces of Islam in the western parts of the country, a large number of armed assailants which continued their dastardly and criminal activities in that region were killed or wounded and a number of them fled to Iraqi territory.

[Signed] Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada base

Guards Corps To Prepare for Liberation of Jerusalem
LD151242 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] On the eve of the anniversary of the historic decree of Imam Khomeyni, commander in chief, concerning the formation of a 20-million-strong army, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps announced that it will carry out programs throughout the country for the preparation of the Corps for the liberation of Jerusalem.

The Guards Corps statement reads in part: In following the decree of the great jurisconsult of the Islamic nation and the commander in chief, Imam Khomeyni, concerning the necessity to liberate the honorable Jerusalem and also the formation of a 20-million-strong army, to determine formal and informal specialities [as heard], and to organize all the popular forces that have been dispatched to the battlefronts during the imposed war, and to establish communication throughout the country, the Guards Corps has implemented the Labbayk Ya Khomeyni project, which has enjoyed the special attention of His Excellency the Remnant of God [Imam Mahdi], may God speed his auspicious advent, and unprecedented support by the combative offspring of the God-seeking nation of Iran. Following that, the Guards Corps intends to implement the manuevers to liberate Jerusalem.

This will be carried out through recalling all the forces involved in the Labbayk Ya Khomeyni project for the purpose of preparing them to perform the principle stages of the manuevers to liberate Jerusalem, which will be carried out in the near future, with God's help.

For this purpose, on the eve of the anniversary of the historic decree by Imam Khomeyni, the commander in chief, concerning the formation of a 20-million-strong army, the Guards Corps intends to implement the programs for the preparation of the manuevers for the liberation of Jerusalem, including recalling, organizing,and mobilizing personnel and analyzing the various stages of the manuevers on Guards Corps bases all over the country. Therefore, all brothers who have registered for the Labbayk Ya Khomeyni project and have received relevant cards are invited to report on Friday, 25 November. The details of the programs will be brought to the attention of the combative nation of Iran in the future.

Gendarmerie Commander Inspects Shiraz Units
GF110814 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 10 Nov 83

[Excerpts] According to the Central News Unit, the commander of the Gendarmerie announced in Shiraz today: As a nation

desirous of implementing justice, we should fight against the archcriminals of the East and West and their mercenary agents who have risen against the Islamic Revolution; we are in combat against them at this very moment.

Colonel Kuchakzadeh, who was speaking at the general morning ceremonies of the infantry division in Shiraz, said: The masks of deceit, treachery, and the championing of human freedom have been removed from the faces of the archcriminal superpowers and an overt example of the atrocities of these so-called superpowers is apparent in Lebanon, Palestine, Afghanistan, and other countries of the world.

The commander alluded to the real problem of our Islamic nation, that is, the imposed war and referred to the great movement of the prophet of Islam. Referring to the position of the combatants at the fronts, the commander said: These victories are the gains of divine succor and support which have always been forthcoming to our combatants.

The Gendarmerie commander left Shiraz for Tehran at noon today. Colonel Kuchakzadeh had inspected the Shiraz Gendarmerie regiment and the Jondollah patrol units.

Chemical Weapons Reportedly Used Against Kurds

GF151840 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] The Democratic Party of Kordestan has said that the Khomeyni regime is using chemical weapons in its war against Kurdish fighters. The spokesman of the Democratic Party of Kordestan in Europe said Islamic Republic forces in the village of (Bayanjan), which is near (Sarqir), dropped some type of bomb which gave off a lot of smoke. Due to this smoke, 8 villagers were killed and 22 were injured, some of whom lost their sight. According to this report, the condition of two of the injured is very critical.

We might recall here that the Islamic Republic has of late been accusing Iraq of using chemical weapons in the war zones and also lodged a complaint regarding it with the United Nations. Reliable observers believe the Khomeyni regime itself is using chemical weapons against the Kurdish forces and now is pinning responsibility on Iraq.

The spokesman of the Democratic Party of Kordestan in Europe said the aircraft that had bombed (Bayanjan) were certainly aircraft of the Islamic Republic. He said Iraq had no reason to attack the Kurdish forces who oppose the Islamic Republic regime.

Radio Iran on Montazeri Remarks, Division Among Clergy

GF141528 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 14 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Ayatollah Khademi, Khomeyni's representative and Esfahan's Friday imam, together with the Friday imams of Chahar Mahal va Bakhtiari Province and the governors and governor generals of the two provinces met Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri in Qom last night.

Experts state that severe disagreements between Khademi and Taheri are not unknown to the people of Esfahan or indeed all of Iran. The extent of the disagreements has reached such levels that it has required Khomeyni's guidance and the intervention of Montazeri and Rafsanjani. We remind you that according to reports reaching us from Esfahan following the heightening of discord between Taheri and Khademi in the city, Taheri in a speech attacked Khademi. Taheri said: Khademi's supporters are causing dissent at the war fronts and among the guards and the Hezbollah. Using a very harsh tone, he warned Khademi that if he does not stop his discordant acts Khomeyni will make the final decision and his fate will be the same as Ayatollah Shari'at madari.

Khademi's supporters, following these remarks, asked him what to do. Khademi warned that such remarks by Taheri will force him to order a closure of Esfahan's bazaar. Taheri's supporters then marked all the doors of the shops closed in the Esfahan bazaar, thus identifying Khademi's supporters.

During last night's meeting with Khademi and the Esfahan and Chahar Mehal va Bakhtiari Provinces' governor generals, Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri talked about subjects that in the opinion of observers reveals the depth of discord, division, and chaos in the Islamic Republic.

Montazeri mentioned the separation of the mullahs from the people and criticized this phenomenon. While everyone is aware of the princely life of the mullahs and officials of the Islamic Republic in palaces and the latest bullet-proof Mercedes Benz, Montazeri stressed the need for a simple lifestyle by the Friday imams and all other officials of the Islamic Republic and asked the mullahs of the Islamic Republic not to forget their days as students. Montazeri, who is witnessing the dusk of the Islamic Republic in terror, has repeatedly revealed the chaos in his speeches and noted that such acts deal blows to the Islamic Revolution and are thus destroying it.

In another part of his speech, Montazeri admitted that there were disagreements and repeated settling of accounts in the organs of the Islamic Republic, saying: It is felt today that many of the capable and religious forces are gradually leaving the scene or being isolated through stupidity or devilish acts of a number of mysterious individuals in the Revolution Guards Corps, the university, department of education, and the bazaar. If this trend continues, the revolution will decay from within. Admitting existence of a number of different factions in the Islamic Republic, Montazeri said: Various trends or policies can be observed in some organizations like the bazaar, the Guards Corps, or the education department and so on which isolate these individuals and create more discontented people each day.

In a recent speech by Ruhollah Khomeyni on the eve of Moharram, the existence of various trends in the Islamic Republic was denied. He said different lines of policy do not exist in the Islamic Republic and everyone follows the same line. He said simpletons can believe that one group may have a different policy than another. Referring to such a possibility, Khomeyni said: There

are some who are trying to make the Iranian people believe that such a condition exists in Iran—that there are groups with their own policies. This is not true and there are no different trends.

Montazeri, in another part of his speech, noted the strong differences between the Friday imams and executive officials and the file system in the Islamic Republic when he said: If the Friday imams or others note the weak points of the executive officials, then they should not also start harassing them or creating files against them.

JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI Discusses Majlis Elections

GF122030 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 29 Oct 83 P 1

[Editorial: "Joint Responsibility"]

[Excerpts] The issue of the future elections is one of those for which we are all responsible — Imam Khomeyni.

Even though there are still around 4 months left until the elections for the second Majlis, the dear leader of the Islamic Revolution has offered some guidance in this respect, noting the importance of the elections and the plots of the enemies of Islam and those opposing the Islamic Republic — be they satanic powers or their agents within — being hatched for these elections. This is another reflection of the true presence of the leader in guiding the society.

The forthcoming elections are one of the important issues tied to the destiny of the Islamic Revolution and the great deal of attention paid by the imam to this issue which is still months away is exactly because of this importance. We had other articles about the plots of the opposition. Using some of the remarks by the imam, we noted the plots of some of the individuals who know that they no longer have any base among the people.

These days we witness the truth of our forecasts and the need to heed the warnings of the imam. It is certain that the politically bankrupt had a better time of it during the monarchial regime and its corruption since it put up more easily with their pseudoin hyphenationtellectualism. They are now very upset since they find no place in the system of the Islamic Republic to offer their decaying ideas and have come to realize that their political masquerades no longer have any customers. In the coming days they will resort to tactics used in the Western election games and will stop at nothing to harm the elections.

Naturally, if the foreign radios find any opportunity, should the problems the Islamic Republic's combatants are creating for them fail to keep them occupied, they will start to support their own candidates and will not leave the politically bankrupt alone in their arena of propaganda battle against the Islamic republican system. Our people, of course, are aware and will neutralize all plots in due course and we, God willing, will carry out the duty of the press when needed.

Putting all this aside, the best way to oppose the plots of the enemies and the opposition is for all concerned to join together and view the forthcoming elections as one of mutual responsibility. It is certain that the enemies of Islam and those opposing the Islamic republican system are first and formost terrified of the unity of the imamist forces. They are well aware that if the imamist forces unite and, as the imam has said, purify goals and intentions and hold the elections for Islam rather than themselves, then no plot can ever threaten the Islamic Republic and affect the destiny of the revolution. Therefore, the joint responsibility of all the imamist forces is to pay exact attention to the imam's guidance concerning the elections.

Attention to such remarks and following such guidance uttered by the imam can eliminate many problems. These are problems mostly stemming from impurities and "me" and "us" are its main culprits. At this point in time, this issue must be deeply borne in the minds of those who plan to propose candidates for the elections. This step should be taken before they select a candidate for themselves since following a selection it would be rather difficult to change their minds and they may even be unable to abide by the guidance of the imam. On the other hand, they may feel compelled to try to categorize their selected candidates to conform to all the guidance of the imam or may wish to explain them away within such a framework.

Therefore, it is far better if all forces pay attention to the imam's directions and guidance for the selection of Majlis deputies or the goals of the forces when entering elections before they select their candidates. Thus, they will be able to create the purity desired by the imam within themselves. We will look into the nature of the candidates and their character as well as the mode of their selection in other issues.

Free Voice of Iran: 24 Executed at Evin Prison

GF142004 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 14 Nov 83

[Text] According to our correspondent, 24 people, including a number of bazaaris, were secretly executed in Tehran's Evin Prison. Among those executed early last Saturday morning were four women who were put in front of firing squads for their opposition to the Islamic Republic regime.

According to our correspondent, the execution of 5 journalists, including Rahman Hafezi, the first editor of *KEYHAN* following the establishment of Khomeyni's regime, brought the total number of those executed to 29 in less than 7 days. Quoting reliable sources, our correspondent adds: Currently 480 prisoners have been sentenced to death by the revolution courts within Evin Prison. Their executions will be carried out gradually and secretly. Groups and organizations opposing Khomeyni's regime from abroad intend to hold demonstrations and send cables to human rights organizations, asking them to stop these barbaric executions in the Islamic Republic.

Radio Iran Reports Execution of Demonstrators

GF111704 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 11 Nov 83

[Text] Following the wide-scale demonstrations by the war-stricken people of Behbehan and Masjed Soleyman, it is reported

that six demonstrators at Masjed Soleyman were executed by the Khomeyni regime. The war-stricken people of Behbehan and Masjed Soleyman in their demonstrations against the war and the Khomeyni regime used slogans which showed their hatred and anger against the policy of a long, bloody war and against the Islamic regime.

The regime mercenaries' fire scattered a group of demonstrators; some were arrested. Reports say one of the demonstrators later was caught and executed in Ahvaz Park. This led to more anger among the people and to more demonstrations. The regime mercenaries who wanted to execute more of the arrested demonstrators were compelled to leave. However, on 6 November, five of the arrested were executed by firing squad in the prison.

Reports further say that one of the executed was named Nurollah Pahlavani, an expelled teacher of the department of education. This step not only did not lessen the waves of anger of the calamity-stricken people of Khuzestan but it fanned the people's anger in an uncontrollable way.

Radio Iran on Nonrelease of Political Prisoners

GF142011 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 14 Nov 83

[Text] Nationalist sources have reported that Hojjat Piranvand, one of the torturers of the Islamic regime in Khorramabad, was attacked by an armed group on the Qom-Tehran highway on a trip from Khorramabad. He was killed on the spot. Piranvand, a security agent of the regime in Khorramabad, played a decisive role in the recognition and arrest of opposition members.

Another report from Qazvin states that Khomeyni's regime recently has prevented the release of those political prisoners whose prison terms have been served. For example, there are still over 30 political prisoners in Qazvin Prison even though they completed their prison terms months ago. Prison officials have told them that they will only be released if they participate in the Friday prayers and give television interviews. Some weeks ago during a meeting with the prisoners and their families, Qazvin's revolution prosecutor announced that as long as he was in office and the regime lasted, no prisoner would be released. Following that threatening speech, a number of the prisoners were put in isolation and the rest were banned from having visitors.

Reports on Polish Economic Delegation's Visit

LD091219 Tehran IRNA in English 1015 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] Tehran, Nov 9, IRNA — Expansion of economic and technical ties and bilateral cooperation between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Poland were discussed in a meeting between the visiting Polish economic delegation and plan and electronics deputy of Iran's Ministry of Industries, Siavash Samiei, Wednesday morning.

Deputy minister of foreign trade of Poland, S. Sjeleski, heads the Polish delegation in its visit to Iran.

Samiei told the Polish delegation that in the field of industrial and economic cooperation, the Islamic Republic of Iran would consider proposals for the purchase of industrial goods which were suitable in terms of both price and quality.

He added that many new plants were due to be established in Iran which needed machinery, noting that Poland could cooperate with the Islamic Republic in this respect.

The delegation extended an invitation to Iranian economic and industrial officials to inspect industrial projects in Poland.

Memorandum Signed

LD101402 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 Nov 83

[Text] Our correspondent reports that at the end of the Polish economic delegation's visit to Iran a memorandum of understanding on economic cooperation was signed between Iran and Poland. This memorandum of understanding was signed by the under secretary at the Ministry of Commerce in charge of foreign trade on behalf of Iran, and by the Polish first deputy minister of foreign trade, representing Poland.

The Polish first deputy minister of foreign trade came to Iran at the head of an economic delegation and during his visit to this country he met and conferred with economic officials. The members of that delegation today also met with Commerce Minister Hassan Abedi Ja'afari after signing the memorandum of understanding. In this meeting, while describing the political and economic positions of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the minister of commerce said Iran's policies on foreign trade are in accordance with Islamic teachings — based on supporting the oppressed nations— and Iran's commercial relations with other countries will be developed on this basis.

The first deputy minister of foreign trade of Poland also described the results of his visit and his meetings with Iranian officials as useful and said that in view of the understanding achieved commercial relations between Iran and Poland will be expanded in the future.

Industry Minister Returns From Visit to Turkey

LD122044 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 12 Nov 83

[Text] Minister of Heavy Industry Behzad Nabavi and one of his deputies returned to Tehran from Turkey after a 3-day visit. Nabavi had gone to Turkey at the head of a delegation to follow up and review commercial and transport relations between the two countries. While in Turkey, he held talks with Turkish officials on coordination.

In the course of his stay, the minister of heavy industry held talks with the prime minister and other Turkish officials and ministers. He then visited the ports of Samsum, Iskenderun, and Mersin. During the inspections, methods of unloading goods at the ports, the volume of Iranian goods in transit, and existing difficulties wre studied and reviewed.

Moreover, during the talks, the Turkish minister of transport, on behalf of his government, pledged proper cooperation in speedily resolving the existing difficulties regarding the transportation of goods in transit, which are mainly a result of the difficulties with which the Turkish transport companies are burdened.

The rest of the Iranian delegation is still in Turkey,attending to certain other problems.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani on Inflation, Distribution

GF121730 Tehran IRNA in English 1540 GMT 12 Nov 83

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 12, IRNA — Majlis Speaker Hojatt ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said shortcomings in distribution system and absence of a well planned programme were reasons for the high rate of inflation.

The Majlis speaker who was talking in a meeting with the newly appointed minister of commerce, Hassan Abedi Ja'afari and deputies and advisors of the ministry last Thursday, further added that despite the problems caused by the Iraqi imposed war, the performance of the government in many fields including development and production has been satisfactory. However, he pointed out, the society suffered from defective distribution of goods because some people have taken advantage of the situation. The system of distribution has been turned upside down and instead of being at the service of the people was at service of a group of profiteers, he added.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani said that the high prices should be harnessed through a mass mobilisation campaign. The high prices, he added, were not solely caused by inflation but also by the budget deficit and faulty system of management. However, this rate of inflation was unjust, and if it continued in this pace the ordinary people could not tolerate, he added.

While stressing that inflation rate should be brought back to a tolerable level, he said that special policies have been proposed to meet this objective. He also said that the government has decided to campaign against plunderers and profiteers and the high judicial council was cooperating with the government and the ministry of commerce in particular, towards this goal.

Rafsanjani said that the private sector would be activated granted that it recognised its limits. The private sector should be present and free enterprise is one of our primary principles, he added. He concluded by assuring the public that the government did not intend to ignore the private sector and wanted to use its expertise.

Reports on Executions, Assassination in Iraq

70 Muslims Executed

GF141901 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 14 Nov 83

[Text] The Iraqi regime has executed 70 Iraqi Muslims in Al-'Amarah. The execution was carried out in the presence of the families of the executed. It took place in stages— groups of 10 were executed together.

The Saddamist security forces took 60 dinars from the family of each martyr for burial expenses.

The Saddamist regime's security forces also encircled a mosque in Zakhu in northern Iraq and arrested many of the people who were in the congregation and transferred them to a camp.

Former Envoy Assassinated

GF141910 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 14 Nov 83

[Text] The paper published by the Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq reports that Qahtan Lutfi 'Ali, former ambassador of the Iraqi regime to Japan, has been assassinated.

The paper reported that the Iraqi security authorities assassinated Qahtan Lutfi 'Ali after recalling him to Iraq where he was involuntarily retired. The paper reported that following his retirement, the former ambassador of the Saddamist regime to Japan chose to work in a shop located between Al-Harithiyah and Al-Mansur in Baghdad. He was inside his shop when two armed men confronted and shot him.

The Baghdad media have remained silent and did not report this act of political assassination.

Majlis Deputies Inspect Khark Installations

GF121724 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 12 Nov 83

[Text] Members of the Majlis Oil Committee consisting of Messrs Kiavash, Nateq-Nuri, Rahmani, Seyyedzadeh, and Za'ieri, deputies from the cities of Ahvaz, Nur, Behshahr, Bakhtaran, and Bandar 'Abbas along with two under secretaries from the Oil Ministry and also the official in charge of the southern oil fields visited Khark Island yesterday afternoon.

According to a report by the Central News Unit, members of this delegation, along with other members of the party, inspected the oil installations of the Khark Island this morning. Before leaving Khark Island, the delegation held a meeting and exchanged views on relative matters with oil company officials and the district governor of the island.